

10
My Lord of P-----K E's

S P E E C H

A T T H E

Treaty of Peace

With His MAJESTY

King CHARLES I.

U P O N

The COMMISSIONERS Arrival
at *Newport* in the *Isle of Wight*, on
Saturday September the 16th. 1648.

Taken *Verbatim* by MICHAEL OLDSWORTH.

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My Lord of the King's

SIR,

Very

Respectfully

The Committee

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My Lord of P-----KE's
S P E E C H
T O
His M A J E S T Y.

May it please Your Majesty,

WE are once more sent by the
Parliament of England to Treat
with you concerning the Set-
tlement of a safe and well-
grounded Peace ; but, as God shall judge me,
I fear to as little purpose it will prove, as
that at *Uxbridge* or *Hampton-Court* ; yet be-
cause of the Clamours of the People, we
are resolved once more to Treat with you :
Yet for all we Treat, we would have you
think, that we scorn to Intreat, we are in a
better Condition than so.

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D—

D— me, were the rest in my mind, there should not want much Treating; every Man hath not the Gift of Treating, no more have I; and, by *G—*, I think the Propositions are able enough to treat for themselves; and therefore your Majesty may save the labour of Treating, and sign them; which if you will, so; if not, so again; we must return to the Place from whence we came, and you again to *Carisbroke-Castle*. Your Majesty cannot say, but you are in Freedom, Safety, and Honour, and have your Servants about you; and therefore we suddenly expect your Answer. *D— me*, the Kingdom must not be ruined for a King; we may have more Kings, but we can have no more such Kingdoms; and if your Majesty will still be an Enemy to the Kingdom, the Kingdom must be an Enemy to You, and may, and will depose You, or dispose of You (whom they have made their Steward) at their Pleasure, and then elect another.

You cannot expect the Kingdom to be so tame and cowardly, as to let you strike them, and they not turn again; nor ourselves so simple and foolish (but upon very good Conditions) to assist and bring in the Kingdom's Steward, or Vice-Roy, to fight
with,

with, strike and conquer it, self. D— me, I cannot imagine, that the *Vice-Roy* should be above the *Roy*; nor that *Rex* should have any other Sense, than to Rule, not Reign: Is a People for a King, or a King for a People?

WHAT a Pox, are we blind, that we cannot understand this? My Lords, pray resolve me, whether is the Means, or the End, King?

Is not the People Supreme? do they not make a King? and have they not Power to mar a King? Whether is Physick or Health King? I say, *R E X* is Ruler, not King; and so by *R E X* we all are Kings, or none are Kings. If Rulers be unruly, pray who must rule them? Must not the most Powerful? And pray who is more powerful than the People, that have so many Hands? Therefore, in my Judgment, a King in a Kingdom, is no other than a Lord Mayor of a City; the Mayor is by *R E X* King of the City, in respect of all Subordinates, these are only Titles and no more. D— me, I know I speak against my self, for I write *P* — — — *P* Earl of *P* — — — *K*, and if I take up Arms and fight against *P* — — — *K*, and rob and kill them of
P — —

~~P~~ — ~~K~~, may not the People of
~~P~~ — ~~K~~ resist me? and am not I a
 Rebel and Traitor to them?

THE Lord Mayor is, by REX, King
 of the City; but if my Lord Mayor takes
 up Arms against the City, or robs them by
 Sea or Land, or Rebel and Traytor them,
 burns their Houses, &c. Is not the Mayor
 a Traitor, a Rebel, for so doing? I pray
 you, my Liege, resolve me.

BUT you may object, The Parliament
 hath wronged you: Pray right your self if
 you can, without wronging the Kingdom,
 and then we will say something to you.

HAVE not I been wronged, nay, wrong-
 ed by the Parliament, wronged by the
 City, wronged, laughed, and jeered at by
 the Univerſity of OXFORD; because I
 acted vigorously according to the Orders of
 Parliament, flung out Antichrist from his
 Seat, and ſet Lambs for Innocence, and
 Doves for Wiſdom, in their places? But
 muſt I wrong the Parliament, the City, the
 Univerſity, for that again, and ſtrike the
 next Man I meet withal? much leſs my
 Lord and King the Kingdom.

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MY LIEGE, I pray do not take me for a Traitor and a Rebel ; uds death, I had rather suffer a thousand Deaths, than endanger the Death of my Lord and Sovereign the Kingdom ; Your Majesty must pardon me in that ; I will not say to your Majesty as your own Country-men the *Scots*, that you are the First and Original Cause of all the Bloodshed in the Three Kingdoms : But admit you were the First Cause, then those assisting you are the Second Cause, and so the *Scots* themselves are the Third Cause, who have lately betrayed their Lives, Liberties and Estates into our Hands, and are now our Slaves and Vassals ; therefore, &c.

BUT for our parts (my Lord) we hope we are more wise, than by such Means to foment our own Miseries, or by our own Treachery to forfeit our Lives or Estates, to any but the State it self, and for the State it self : And for my own part am resolved, and so I think are the rest, to fight against any, that shall fight against our Sovereign King the Kingdom ; who is your King, my King, and every Man's King else.

Y E T, notwithstanding all this, the Parliament have so low condescended beneath themselves, unto Your Majesty, that they have made us their COMMISSIONERS to Treat with you; they have recalled their own Votes of making no more Addresses unto you; they have ordered Ten thousand Pounds for defraying the Charge of the Treaty, whereof Six thousand Pounds Your Majesty is to have for the Use of your self, and those assisting about you; and we Commissioners but Three thousand Pounds: Therefore who think you will be Gainers? They have sent unto you Dr. R E E V E and Dr. D U C K, and, I think, the Devil and all: 'Zblood, are they not Parties, and must they treat in their own Cause, or must we treat with Parties? My Lords, you may do as you will, but I'll do as I list.

I F Your Majesty do suddenly recall all the Declarations, Protestations, and the like, that have proclaim'd us Traitors, Rebels, &c. You may; if You will not, You may chuse, for I am resolved. For Religion, for all I am Chancellor of OXFORD, it shall never trouble me; I thank GOD I have Religion enough to say my Prayers, and
for

